

Rs. 1033 crore has been released. The Special Plan for the KBK districts was being funded @Rs. 250 crore per annum under the Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (RSVY). The Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana has now been replaced by the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF). Under this programme, a Participatory District Development Perspective Plan for the Eleventh Five Year Plan period has to be prepared for each district. The Panchayats at the village, intermediate and district level will undertake planning and implementation of the programme. The participatory plans prepared by each Panchayat and Municipality are to be consolidated into the district plan by the District Planning Committee. As far as the level of funding is concerned, the allocation of Rs. 250 crore per annum being made currently will be protected. The eight KBK districts will be funded as per the BRGF district norms and the remaining amount will be provided under the Special Plan for these districts.

Nankana Sahib Shrine in Pakistan

†*130. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BALAPTE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware of the plight of the holy shrine of Nankana Sahib situated in Pakistan;
- (b) if so, the efforts being made to improve its condition; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) The Bilateral Protocol on Visits to Religious Shrines signed in September, 1974 requires the respective Governments to maintain the sanctity of the shrines in their respective countries. Government is aware that some shrines in Pakistan are not maintained properly. The Government of Pakistan has been apprised of the need for proper maintenance of the shrines as provided under the bilateral protocol.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.